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New On-Line Data Bases

A number of new data bases have recently become accessible to participants in NLM's on-line network.

• AVLINE—a data base containing information on about 700 audiovisual instructional materials in the health sciences which have been peer-reviewed and classified as "highly recommended" or "recommended" (see *News,* April 1975). The data base is expected to increase at a rate of approximately 200 per month. Originally accessible only in a test mode, it is now available to all U.S. MEDLINE users.

• CANCERPROJ—a National Cancer Institute data base composed of summaries of ongoing cancer research projects and protocols or clinical trials. The research projects are collected by the Smithsonian Science Information Exchange (SSIE) from both foreign and domestic sources, and include grants, contracts, and fellowships. A user can retrieve information from CANCERPROJ by specifying one or more of the following: the type of award, the performing organization, fiscal year, supporting agency identification number, country or state, an investigator's name, or words which may appear in the title or summary of the project or protocol. All citations in the data base are accompanied by project summaries, and the file is available to both MEDLINE and TOXLINE ® users.

• EPILEPSY—contains bibliographic citations (including abstracts) to articles relating to epilepsy which have been abstracted by *Excerpta Medica.* The file, sponsored by the National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke, currently contains over 16,000 records from 1945 to 1973, and is available to all U.S. MEDLINE and TOXLINE users. There are plans to add later citations.

Toxicology Group Publishes Research Projects Directory

The first issue of a new quarterly publication, the *Toxicology Research Projects Directory,* makes its appearance this month. The 644-page *Directory* (Volume I, Number 1, January 1976), which contains descriptions of some 2,500 on-going toxicological research projects, is sold by the Toxicology Document and Data Depository, National Technical Information Service.*

The information contained in the *Directory* is drawn from the computerized files of the Smithsonian Science Information Exchange (SSIE), which receives over 100,000 summaries of Federally supported research each year. The publication is sponsored by the Toxicology Information Subcommittee of the DHEW Committee to Coordinate Toxicology and Related Programs. A major project of the Subcommittee is the establishment of a Tox-

* Single issue: $15 ($20 foreign); Subscription (four 1976 issues): $50 ($65 foreign); Publication No. NTISUB/B/021-76/001. Address: Toxicology Document and Data Depository, National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161.

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NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE
NEWS

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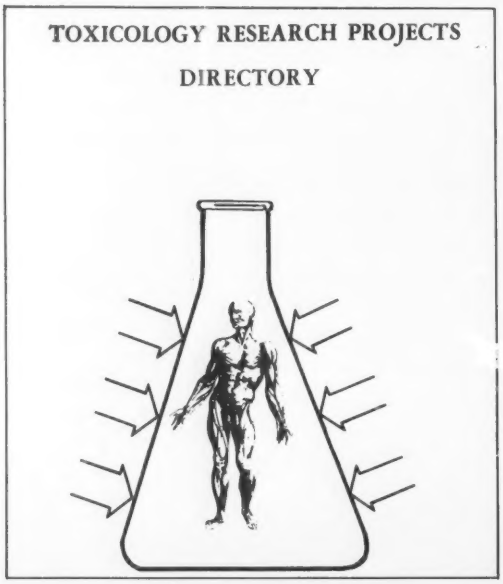
icology Document and Data Depository; the *Directory* is its first product. Operational responsibility for the Toxicology Information Subcommittee and its projects is vested in NLM's Toxicology Information Program.

The *Toxicology Research Projects Directory* is organized in seven chapters: agricultural, industrial, and household substances; drugs, medical materials, food additives, and cosmetics; physical agents and gases; metals, minerals, and trace elements; biotoxins; multiple and unspecified agents; and environmental problems. There are, in addition, indexes by subject, investigator's name, supporting agency, performing organization, and master grant number.



The first issue contains abstracts of research projects registered with SSIE between January 1 and August 15, 1975. Future issues will list later projects. The last quarterly issue for 1976 will also contain a cumulation of all indexes for that year.

The *Directory*, in its first year, is considered an experimental publication. If scientists in industry, academia, and government find it to be a useful information tool, publication of the Directory will be continued.

Publication Notes

Additional copies of the Publications Supplement to last month's *News* are available by writing NLM's Office of Inquiries and enclosing a self-addressed mailing label. The following additions and changes should be made to the Supplement:

- Add (page 7) MEDICAL SUBJECT HEADINGS (1976) (Pt. 2, January INDEX MEDICUS): *$8.20 ($10.25 foreign). HE 20.3612:17/1pt2; S/N–017–052–76301.*

- Delete (pages 6 and 7) CUMULATED ABRIDGED INDEX MEDICUS, 1972 and CUMULATED INDEX MEDICUS, 1973 (out of print).

- Revised GPO prices (pages 6–8): CUMULATED ABRIDGED INDEX MEDICUS, 1973: *$24.00 ($30.00 foreign);* NLM CURRENT CATALOG (Annual, 1972): *$35.50 ($44.40 foreign);* NLM CURRENT CATALOG (Annual, 1971): *$37.30 ($46.65 foreign).*

- Revised NTIS prices (pages 9–11): The National Technical Information Service has issued a new pricing schedule. Add $0.25 to all prices listed under $6.00; $0.50 to prices between $6.00 and $15.00; and $1.00 to the one publication listed over $15.00

Reminder: The Government Printing Office requests that you use the stock numbers (S/N) provided in the Supplement for all non-subscription items (see Supplement, pages 6–8).

The Regional Medical Libraries—Region XI

by Phyllis S. Mirsky, Associate Director
Pacific Southwest Regional Medical Library Service (PSRMLS)

The Pacific Southwest Regional Medical Library Service (PSRMLS) was established on May 1, 1969, and began providing services to health professionals in Arizona, California, Hawaii, and Nevada on September 1, 1969.

Its history goes back further, though, to 1967, when planning for a regional medical library service began under the auspices of the Medical Library Group of Southern California. This initial planning group was expanded to encompass representatives from medical libraries and health professionals in Northern California, Arizona, Hawaii, and Nevada.

The end result of this planning process was the recommendation that a grant application be submitted by the UCLA Biomedical Library for the establishment of a Pacific Southwest Regional Medical Library Service. The services recommended by the planning group were those eventually incorporated into the grant proposal and for the most part are those still being provided, a true testament to the ability of the group to identify the needs of the health sciences community.

The original planning group also envisioned a series of sub-regional networks which would be funded by the Regional Medical Program (RMP). Although such networks were funded in Arizona, Hawaii, and Nevada, and have continued with local or NLM support, this funding did not occur in California because of the complexities involved. However, the RMP geographic areas defined at that time have remained the library geographic units into which PSRMLS is organized and through which planning for regionwide efforts is done.

The effort and thought that went into this original RML plan has proven to be a most fortunate asset to PSRMLS: its flexibility has enabled PSRMLS to incorporate with a minimum of disruption new services such as AIM-TWX and MEDLINE and phase out those no longer viable (e.g.,MEDLARS® demand searches). The services currently offered by PSRMLS include document delivery, reference, MEDLINE training, MEDLINE network management, consulting and workshops.

The Document Delivery or Interlibrary Loan (ILL) Service offered through PSRMLS has always been supplemental in nature, with the aim of maintaining the borrowing pattern that existed before the subsidized PSRMLS services were available and expanding these on an orderly geographic basis insofar as practical. PSRMLS began operations with both a quota and restricted lists (one for metropolitan areas, another for the rest of the Region) in order to encourage greater reliance on local resources. Recent changes in ILL policy which increased the number of titles on the restricted list and decreased the quota will further assist in tapping the entire resources of the Region. The PSRMLS-funded ILL service is shared between the UCLA Biomedical Library and the Library of the University of California, San Francisco, the former serving as a back-up for Southern California, Arizona, and Hawaii, and the latter serving the same function for Northern California and Nevada.

The MEDLINE Network in Region XI has expanded greatly with 60 institutions offering MEDLINE service as of January 1, 1976. Plans for the orderly decentralization of MEDLINE services were begun in late 1971, and early 1972, when NLM announced the general availability of the MEDLINE system to health science libraries across the country.

Following NLM guidelines, a three phase plan was developed by the major medical libraries in the Region to insure access to MEDLINE bibliographic services for all the health professionals in the Region, either through their own institutions or one in their geographic area. Phase I of the Plan which extended MEDLINE access to all the Region's medical schools and the Los Angeles County Medical Association was completed within a

year. Phase II involved a totally new concept—shared access to the MEDLINE system. A prototype of a MEDLINE consortium was organized in August 1973, consisting of five hospitals in the greater Los Angeles area. Since then ten more consortia have become operational encompassing 33 more institutions. By mid-1975, Phase III allowed for access to the system for academic and other institutions not primarily health related; several such institutions are already operating MEDLINE Centers.

This rapid expansion can be partially attributed to PSRMLS' active involvement in MEDLINE training. Authorized by NLM in 1972, PSRMLS began providing 12 day sessions for representatives from the MEDLINE Centers in the Region. This has since been expanded to include training for most of the MEDLINE Centers in Regions VIII, IX, X and XI. This initial contact with the MEDLINE personnel in the Region has facilitated a continued close contact between PSRMLS and these Centers. Yearly update sessions and more frequent mini-workshops have served to keep our ever increasing number of regional MEDLINE searchers informed of the myriad of changes in the capabilities and configuration of the system as MEDLARS II becomes fully operational.

The PSRMLS consulting and training function has consistently served to support the entire RML operation. Workshops held throughout the Region preceded or followed by in-person consultation visits have increased the ability of basic units throughout the Region to fully exploit the Network. Inclusion in the workshops of local instructors and resource library personnel has strengthened the ability of local institutions to respond to requests for aid and assistance from smaller institutions in their area. Special assistance in the area of audiovisuals was made possible when one PSRMLS staff member received specialized training at NMAC to serve as the Regional Media Consultant as part of the overall consulting and training service.

The Biomedical Library of the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) serves as headquarters for the Pacific Southwest Regional Medical Library Service.

Further plans include submission of a Resource Project Grant application to develop a methodology for a more efficient and convenient way of making agreements and exchanging information on serials acquisitions. A manual system of notification of cancellations and new subscriptions has been developed and has functioned since 1973. It is hoped that on-line interaction using the SERLINE data base will eliminate the time-consuming aspects of serials rationalization and allow for the more efficient use of resources in the Region. As the regional plan for health science library development in Region XI becomes more formalized it is anticipated that many more cooperative ventures will take place.

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The preceding article on Region XI brings to a close NLM's series on the Regional Medical Libraries begun in May 1974. The articles on the other ten RMLs may be found in the following issues of the News: Region I, May 1974; Region II, July 1974; Region III, October 1974; Region IV, December 1974; Region V, February 1975; Region VI, May 1975; Region VII, July 1975; Region VIII, June 1975; Region IX, September 1975; Region X, December 1975.

The Library very much appreciates the cooperation of the RMLs for sharing with News readers the stories of their programs.

A search of the MEDLARS data base since August 1973 turned up 353 citations to articles dealing with child abuse (Literature Search No. 75–29). The vignette above is by an anonymous French cartoonist and is taken from a work published in the mid-19th century (from NLM's History of Medicine Division.)

New Literature Searches

Recent NLM searches of the MEDLARS data base have produced bibliographies on such topics of current interest as sport medicine, child abuse, funding of cancer detection and therapy, and nutrition and mental development (see below). These searches have been printed as part of NLM's Literature Search series, and are available without charge. (A complete list of titles appears in each issue of *Index Medicus* and *Abridged Index Medicus*.) When requesting Literature Searches, please include title and number, *enclose a self-addressed gummed label,* and mail to:

Literature Search Program
Reference Section
National Library of Medicine
8600 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20014

LS 75–24 *Contraception in males.* January 1973 through November 1975. 142 citations.

LS 75–25 *Adverse effects of vinyl chloride.* January 1973 through November 1975. 129 citations in English or with an English abstract.

LS 75–26 *Sport medicine.* January 1973 through December 1975. 511 citations.

LS 75–27 *Infant sleep.* January 1973 through December 1975. 80 citations.

LS 75–28 *EMI scanner (computerized axial tomography).* January 1973 through December 1975. 83 citations.

LS 75–29 *Child abuse.* August 1973 through December 1975. 353 citations.

LS 75–30 *Labor induction.* January 1973 through December 1975. 478 citations.

LS 76–1 *Government/non-government funding of cancer detection and therapy.* January 1973 through November 1975. 72 citations.

(Continued)

LS 76–2 *Amniocentesis.* January 1973 through December 1975. 308 citations.

LS 76–3 *Nutrition and mental development.* January 1973 through December 1975. 109 citations.

This prototype of an ether inhalator, developed by Dr. Thomas T. Morton (1819–1868), is featured in the Library's bicentennial exhibit (*News*, December 1975), "200 Years of American Medicine." Dr. Morton, a dentist, gave the first public demonstration of ether anesthesia in 1846. The inhalator is on loan from the Smithsonian Institution.

Gaps List Results

The Library's efforts to acquire issues missing in NLM's collection by publishing a monthly list of gaps have been successful: of the 190 issues requested in the September and October-November issues of the *News*, 51 have been received. This represents a return of approximately 27%, a relatively high figure for out-of-print or otherwise unavailable material.

The first gap list was published in the January 1974 issue. Our analysis of results for that first year again revealed a 27% return, or a total of 301 issues of 1,118 requested.

The Library appreciates the assistance of readers in filling these gaps, for these are titles frequently requested on interlibrary loan. NLM does try to thank donors soon after receipt of the material, but if through oversight you have been neglected in the past, please be assured that we are grateful for your gifts and are making good use of them.

The following journal issues are this month's continuation to the list of gaps in the Library's collection. If you can supply any of these items, please address them to:

National Library of Medicine
TSD-GAPS
8600 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, Maryland 20014

Australian Journal of Medical Technology 1:4, 1970; 2:4, 1971

Bulletin of the Columbus Dental Society 27:4, 10, 1969; 30:3, 1970; 31:7, 1971; 32:3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 1972; 33:1, 2, 3, 8, 1973

Bulletin of the Hudson County Dental Society 32:8, 1963; 33:6, 8, 1964; 34:1, 1964; 34:8, 1965; 35:2, 1965; 36:1, 1966; 38:7, 1969; 40:7, 1971; 41:1, 1971; 42:4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 1972; 43:1, 2, 3, 4, 1972

Bulletin of the Ninth District Dental Society of the State of New York 50:3, 1964; 53:1, 1967; 54:3, 1969; 54:5, 1970

Bulletin, Pacific Coast Society of Orthodontists 45:2, 1970; 48:1, 2, 3, 4, 1973; 49:1, 1974

Bulletin of the Passaic County Dental Society 26:6, 1965

Cancer Cytology 5:2, 1963

Deafness Annual 1, 1971

Dental Angles 7:3, 1966; 9:3, 1969

Dental Assistant 36:2, 5, 1967; 37:1, 3, 4, 6, 1968; 40:1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 1971; 41:4, 9, 10, 12, 1972

Dental Economics—Oral Hygiene 58:1, 1968; 62:6, 12, 1972

Dental Images 8:1, 3, 1968; 9:3, 1969; 10:1, 2, 1970; 11:1, 1971; 13:3, 1973; 14:2, 1974

Hospital Management 111:5, 1971

Hospital Medicine 9:8, 1973

Journal—Addiction Research Foundation 2:4, 5, 1973

Journal of the American Academy of Gold Foil Operators 14:2, 1971; 16:2, 1973; 17:1, 1974

Journal of the American Society for Geriatric Dentistry 1:1, 1966; 2:2, 3, 1967; 7:1, 1971; 8:1, 1973

Journal of Auditory Research 13:3, 4, 1973

Journal—Connecticut State Dental Association 47:3, 4, 1973

Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing 1:3, 1970; 3:4, 1972; 5:5, 1974

Journal of the Maine Medical Association 54:7, 1963

The Library lost a long-time friend and adviser on January 3rd with the passing of Dr. Russell A. Dixon, former dean of Howard University's College of Dentistry. Dr. Dixon was a member of NLM's Board of Regents from 1963 to 1967, and consultant-in-residence on dental affairs from 1966 to 1968. He died at his home in Silver Spring, Maryland, after a heart attack.

MLAA Extension Proposed

On December 19, 1975, Representative Paul G. Rogers (Dem.-Fla.) introduced H.R. 11316 to extend for three years grant assistance programs for medical libraries and for health services research and statistics. (Authorization for the Library's current Extramural Programs, which would expire on June 30, 1976, is contained in the Health Services Research, Health Statistics and Medical Libraries Act of 1974.)

Briefly Noted

• NLM Director Martin M. Cummings, M.D., returned to the Library in early January after completing a half-year work assignment in Canberra, Australia (*News*, July 1975). Dr. Cummings was a consultant to the National Library of Australia, and wrote a report for the NLA and its Council regarding a proposed life sciences information network.

• There are a few remaining openings for a seminar-workshop on "Learning Spaces," sponsored by NLM's National Medical Audiovisual Center (NMAC). Dates: April 12–14, 1976. Location: NMAC, 1600 Clifton Road, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30333. This seminar-workshop is designed for individuals from health science institutions involved in facilities design projects or planning committees. The purpose is to introduce participants to the elements of educational facilities planning; to familiarize them with the characteristics of communication media, especially their implications for facilities design; and to provide practical experiences in designing learning spaces using principles derived from educational, architectural, and media sources. There is no charge for the training or for the materials distributed during training. For further information, contact the Center's Training Coordinator as soon as possible.

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